

whereas in the plant of Dr. Coxe, the nervures on the under side of the leaf are strongly marked, &c. &c.

Mr. Pelletan proposes to call this species *Convolvulus officinalis*, and we are of opinion that his suggestion is a good one on many accounts.

The name *C. jalapa*, it is evident, leads to much confusion and uncertainty, from its having been applied to many totally distinct plants. Thus the *C. jalapa* of Linnæus, the description of which approaches nearest to the present plant, may or may not be identical with it, but as it has been quoted as a synonyme for other and confessedly different species, it would be better to consider it as not yet identified by more modern botanists.

The *C. jalapa* of Woodville, judging from his representation of it, differs in many essential particulars, and as is justly observed by Mr. Nuttall, resembles one of the varieties of *C. panduratus*.¹ Neither is it the *C. jalapa*, *Bot. Mag. Hort. Kew.* i. 211. *Willd.* i. 860, &c., as these evidently refer to the *I. macrorrhiza* of Michaux, figured as above mentioned by Desfontaines in the *Ann. du Mus.*

As to the point in dispute, whether the plant in question is an *Ipomæa* or a *Convolvulus*, it is a matter of little importance. Botanists are by no means in unison as to what are the distinctive characters of each, and many have rejected the former entirely, or considered it as merely entitled to the rank of a subgenus.

Tournefort founds his differential character on the form of the Corolla, whilst Linnæus considers this as of a secondary importance, and assumes the form of the stigma as the distinguishing mark, in which he is followed by Jussieu and others. If this be adopted as a guide, instead of dividing *Convolvulus* into two genera only, we must erect a new genus for every different form of this part, and thus split up an otherwise natural group into a dozen or more sections. If a division be adopted, that proposed by Kunth of *Staminibus exsertis, inæqualibus*, and *Staminibus inclusis*, is the best, as it brings together those species which are most closely allied in other particulars; but even this plan offers many difficulties and anomalies.

Before concluding this notice, it should be mentioned that Mr. Nuttall stated to us, that he still entertained doubts whether the plant described by Dr. Coxe was the true jalap, as he had found the tubers grown at Cambridge, Mass., were devoid of active properties. As this is not the case with those produced in this city, the objection is scarcely valid, but at the same time, the fact is highly interesting in itself, as showing the effect of climate or cultivation in modifying the properties of vegetables.—*Journ. of Phil. Coll. of Pharmacy, July, 1834.*

Dartmouth College.—The number of medical students in this institution in October last, was 106. The following are the requisites for graduation:—

"Each candidate for the degree of M. D. must be twenty-one years of age; must possess a good moral character, an acquaintance with *natural and experimental philosophy*, and a knowledge of the *principles and construction of the Latin language*; must have studied medicine three full years with some regular practitioner; must have attended two courses of public lectures in all the branches of the profession, at a regularly organized medical institution, one of which courses shall have been attended at this institution; must have passed a successful private examination before the medical faculty, and have read and defended in their presence an acceptable dissertation on some medical subject."

Medical Institution of Geneva College, New York.—The trustees of Geneva College have established a medical department, and appointed the following professors.

Dr. EDWARD CUTBUSH,	Professor of Chemistry.
Dr. WILLARD PARKER,	" Anatomy and Physiology.
Dr. J. G. MORGAN,	" Surgery.
Dr. C. B. COVENTRY,	" Obstetrics and Materia Medica.
Dr. A. COLEMAN,	" Medical Jurisprudence and Botany.

The lecture term will commence on the second Tuesday of February, and will continue sixteen weeks.

"The following requisitions will entitle a candidate to the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and be of good moral character; he must have attended two full courses of lectures, one of which must have been in this institution, and have studied three years under some respectable practitioner of medicine, and have an *adequate knowledge of the Latin language*, and of *natural philosophy*. He must likewise write and present to the dean of the faculty a thesis on some medical subject, to be approved, and must pass a satisfactory examination by the medical faculty in the presence of the curators of this institution."

Berkshire Medical Institution.—It appears from the catalogue published in November last, that the number of students was 87, of whom 45 were seniors, and 42 juniors.

Transylvania University.—The number of the medical class during the session 1834-5, was 255.

Sphygmometer.—Dr. J. G. NACHREDE, of this city, has translated the memoir of Dr. Herisson, the inventor of this instrument. A description of it, with a figure, and the report of the institute in relation to it, will be found at p. 543, of this No.

Sarlandière's Anatomy.—A complete set of anatomical plates, embracing representations of the bones, ligaments, muscles, organs of sense, viscera, organs of secretion and excretion, veins, nerves, lymphatics, and nervous system, with references; and all for six dollars! When we add further, that the plates are exceedingly well executed, we are sure that every student will hasten to secure a copy of the work. It is published by Messrs. J. & E. Bisbee, of New York, and is to be had of Messrs. Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.

Professor Caldwell's Thoughts on Physical Education.—It was only accidentally, and within a few days, that we met with this interesting discourse delivered before a convention of Teachers in Lexington, Kentucky. The subject of it is one of paramount importance and it is ably treated by the author.

This discourse has also the somewhat rare merit, for an American Medical work, of a classical style. We shall notice it more particularly hereafter.

Marshall Hall's Principles of Diagnosis.—The second edition of this valuable work, entirely re-written, has been published by D. Appleton and Co. New York. We shall notice it in our next number.